

# THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING AND REVIEWING MISSION FACTORS

Sub-Working Group on Self-sustainment

## LIST OF ISSUE PAPER(S)

Secretariat Issue Paper #31 – The process of establishing and reviewing mission factors

## FOCAL POINTS

Secretariat

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

Mission factors are intended to compensate Troop and Police Contributing Countries for specific conditions prevailing in their area of responsibility that cause unusual wear and tear, shorter life of equipment, increased maintenance costs, and or risk of damage to or loss of the equipment.

The process of establishing and reviewing mission factors was introduced in the COE manual under the lead of the Military Planning Service of the Office of Military Affairs and the Strategic Policy and Development Section of the Police Division, mainly due to the operational dimension expressed under the intensified operational factor. However, with the evolving of the process, the intensified operational factor has shifted focus to logistics and road condition as endorsed by the 2020 COE WG in its report A/74/689 based on the study mandated by the 2017 COE WG in its report A/C.5/71/20 to review the methodology of calculating mission factors. The intensified operational aspect was discussed by the 2020 and the 2023 COE working groups as a premium and a separate issue paper proposing an Operational Engagement Premium will be presented to the 2026 COE WG. The shift from intensified operational factor to logistics and road condition factor makes the exercise of establishing and reviewing mission factors better aligned with the expertise and responsibilities of the MOU Reimbursement Policy Section (MRPS) of the Uniformed Capabilities Support Division (UCSD). Transitioning the lead to MRPS-UCSD will also allow continuity of the process and adequate policy considerations.

Still Under Discussion

Agreed by the sub-working group

AGREED BY WORKING GROUP ON 23/01/2026 AT 10:23 AM

LAST CHANGED 23 JANUARY 2026 AT 11:45:00 AMAM

Additionally, as per the current policy, the mission factors and their subsequent reviews are co-approved by the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support and the Military/Police Adviser from Department of Peace Operations, which are different levels of leadership approval

## PROPOSED TEXT FOR 2026 COE MANUAL

To implement this proposal, the following changes are requested:

Chapter 7, Annex A, Page 163/281 of the COE Manual, add the text in bold and remove the text in bold with a strikethrough.

2. This decision sheet is to be used by the technical survey team visiting the peacekeeping area at the beginning of a mission and during subsequent reviews. Upon returning from the survey mission, the technical survey team is to submit this report to the **Military/Police Adviser Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations** and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support for review and approval. The resulting factor is to be indicated in the memorandum of understanding.

Chapter 7, Annex B, Page 168/281 of the COE Manual, add the text in bold and remove the text in bold with a strikethrough.

2. This decision sheet is to be used by the technical survey team visiting the peacekeeping area at the beginning of a mission and during subsequent reviews. Upon returning from the survey mission, the technical survey team is to submit this report to the **Military/Police Adviser Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations** and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support for review and approval. The resulting factor is to be indicated in the memorandum of understanding.

Chapter 7, Annex C, Page 172/281 of the COE Manual, add the text in bold and remove the text in bold with a strikethrough.

2. This decision sheet is to be used by the technical survey team visiting the peacekeeping area at the beginning of a mission and during subsequent reviews. Upon returning from the survey mission, the technical survey team is to submit this report to the **Military/Police Adviser Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations** and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support for review and approval. The resulting factor is to be indicated in the memorandum of understanding.

Chapter 10, Section B, Page 274/281 of the COE Manual, remove the text in bold with a strikethrough and update the paragraph numbering.

**Still Under Discussion**

**Agreed by the sub-working group**

**AGREED BY WORKING GROUP ON 23/01/2026 AT 10:23 AM**

**LAST CHANGED 23 JANUARY 2026 AT 11:45:00 AMAM**

~~3. The Under-Secretary-General co-approves, with the Military/Police Adviser, the mission factors developed by the technical survey team and reviews and co-approves any subsequent amendments.~~

Chapter 10, Section C, Page 274/281 of the COE Manual, remove the text in bold with a strikethrough.

~~7. They lead the technical survey team using the guidelines contained in the COE Manual and, in consultation with the Uniformed Capabilities Support Division, prepare a recommendation regarding the mission factors for a mission and any subsequent review of mission factors, for review and co-approval by the Military/Police Adviser and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support. They also assess requests for mission factor reviews received from field missions, contingent commanders or permanent missions to the United Nations and, in consultation with the Uniformed Capabilities Support Division and the United Nations Mine Action Service, as appropriate, make a recommendation to the Military/Police Adviser and the Director of the Uniformed Capabilities Support Division as to whether a review of mission factors should be undertaken. The Military/Police Adviser is to review and co-approve, with the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support or the delegated authority, the mission factors developed by the technical survey team and review and co-approve any subsequent amendments. In all cases, mission factors must be reviewed every three years.~~ The Military Planning Service and the Strategic Policy and Development Section initiate and lead, in consultation with the United Nations Mine Action Service, the review of the requirement for self-sustainment with regard to explosive ordnance disposal 18 months after the forces are deployed and provide this determination to the Memorandum of Understanding and Reimbursement Policy Section for amendment to the memorandum of understanding as applicable.

Chapter 10, Section G, Page 277/281 of the COE Manual, add new para 26 and update rest of para numbering accordingly. The text to be added is in bold.

**26. The Section leads the technical survey team using the guidelines contained in the COE Manual and, in consultation with the Military Planning Service of the Office of Military Affairs and the Strategic Policy and Development Section of the Police Division, prepares a recommendation regarding the mission factors for a mission and any subsequent review of mission factors, for review and co-approval by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support. The Section also assesses requests for mission factor reviews received from field missions, contingent commanders or permanent missions to the United Nations and, in consultation with the Military Planning Service of the Office of Military Affairs, the Strategic Policy and Development Section of the Police Division and the United Nations Mine Action Service, and other offices as appropriate, makes a recommendation to the Military/Police Adviser and the Assistant Secretary General for Office of Supply Chain Management as to whether a review of mission factors should be undertaken. The Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations is to review and co-approve, with the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, the mission factors developed by the technical survey team and review and co-approve any subsequent amendments. In all cases, mission factors must be reviewed every three years.**

Still Under Discussion

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